THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) as per information furnished by the Indian Nursing Council, at present there is no Nursing College in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) No proposal has been received by the Indian Nursing Council from Government of Himachal Pradesh to set up any new Nursing College in the State.

Ban on Smoking in Public Places

2903. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a ban on smoking in public places;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to ban Tobacco which is the biggest killer and is the cause of oral cancer in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Government has introduced a comprehensive legislation in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 2001, for discouraging use of tobacco and its products. The salient features of the Bill, inter-alia, include prohibition of smoking in public places, ban on sale of tobacco products to minors and ban on its advertisement. The Bill is under consideration of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development.

Use of synthetic substances in Dabur Honey

2904. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dabur Honey has been reported to be containing synthetic substances;

(b) if so, whether the inclusion of these synthetic substances is permissible in the Ayurvedic pharmacopoeia and not detrimental to human health; and

(c) whether the company is required to mention on the product lables, names of the synthetic ingredients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Dabur Honey has been licenced as a food item and not as Ayurvedic medicine. The firm has denied use of synthetic substances.

Synthetic substances are not included in Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia which, however, has not laid down standards for honey.

As per prevention and Food Adulteration Rules 1955, no synthetic ingredients are permitted to be added in honey.

Manufacturers are supposed to indicate the name of ingredients with their quantity on the labels as per the requirement of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules thereunder.

Constitution of Advisory Committees on CGHS Dispensaries

2905. SHRIYADALAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute Advisory Committees with association of local MPs for inspection of CGHS dispensaries to ensure that they run properly in public interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to constitute Advisory Committees with association of local MPs for inspection of CGHS dispensaries. Various CGHS authorities inspect the dispensaries from time to time.

Inclusion of NET. N. Vaccination in Family Welfare Programme

2906. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: